Toning up the performance of Hindustan Engineering Corporation

3438. SHRI J. P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to enlist a Japanese Company Mitsubishi's cooperation in toning up the performance of the Hindustan Engineering Corporation;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard;

(c) whether it is a fact that Mitsubishi has conveyed its inability to have any formal collaboration with HEC;

(d) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(e) what further steps Government propose to take to tone up the performance of Heavy Engineering Corporation?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) to (d) A proposal for preparation of a feasibility report for upgrading technology of Foundry Forge Plant was submitted by Mitsubishi to HEC. Mitsubishi have not agreed to the suggestion made by HEC for liking the feasibility study to the development of specific products. Hence, the proposal was not pursued further by HEC. Mitsubishi have regretted their inability to discuss foreign collaboration for HMTP on the plea that they have already a collaboration for manufacture of certain machine tools with another Indian firm.

(e) In order to improve the performance of HEC, various measures towards capital restructuring, financial relief, upgradation of technology; product diversification forging better linkages with user sectors etc. have been taken.

Amount collected by M/s. Lohia Machines Ltd. for booking of Scooters

3439. SHRI DHARAM CHANDER PRASHANT: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the yearwise amount collected from bookings of Vaspa scooters by Lohia Machines since its inception till 31st March, 1987;

(b) what is the percentage of cancellations of bookings yearwise;

(c) what is the total number of bookings pending as on 1st April, 1987 and how the amount collected from bookings has been invested;

(d) what is the plan of indigenisation of the manufacture of scooters by India Machines;

(e) what is the amount of foreign exchange earned during the last three years from the export of these scooters and what is the sum paid for the know-how and import of components for the scooters; and

(f) what is the projection for export during the next three years especially in view of reduction of import duties?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) The company had called for bookings in Jan-Feb. 1983. The total amount received by it as advance from the customers was nearly Rs. 116 crores on 23.19 lakh applications.

(b) The total cancellations received upto 31-3-87 works out to approximately 40 per cent of the total bookings.

(c) The total number of bookings pending as on 1st April, 1987 were approximately 12.18 lacs. According to the Company the advance amount was invested with Nationalised Banks, and as debentures with private sector companies. The amount was also utilised in Units towards working capital requirements.